## Message Text

**SECRET** 

PAGE 01 STATE 049213 ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY AF:WBEDMONDSON:LPR APPROVED BY P:PCHABIB AF:WESCHAUFELE S/S - MR. SHANKL S/S-MR SHANKLE

-----050139Z 033971 /62

O 050115Z MAR 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
WHITE HOUSE

SECRETSTATE 049213

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR ONLY FROM SCHAUFELE; WH FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1 (IMPOSDET)

TAGS: PFOR, TZ, UG

SUBJECT: NYERERE/MUGANDA COMMENTS ON UGANDA

REFS: (A) DAR ES SALAAM 828 (B) DAR ES SALAAM 913

- 1. WE ARE ENTIRELY IN AGREEMENT WITH YOUR NEGATIVE REACTION TO IDEAS HINTED AT BY PRESIDENT NYERERE AND MADE MORE EXPLICIT BY MUGANDA. WE BELIEVE YOUR MEASURED RESPONSE WAS CORRECT IN BOTH INSTANCES, AND HAD IT NOT BEEN THAT NYERERE DIRECTED MUGANDA TO FOLLOW UP, WE WOULD HAVE INSTRUCTED YOU TO MAKE NO REPLY UNLESS SUBJECT WAS RAISED AGAIN.
- 2. IN VIEW OF MUGANDA'S APPROACH, WE SUGGEST YOU ARRANGE SECRET

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FOR A FURTHER "CHAT" ON THIS SUBJECT EITHER THROUGH MUGANDA OR DIRECTLY WITH NYERERE AT YOUR DISCRETION AND MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS.

(A) LIKE TANZANIA, THE UNITED STATES IS DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SITUATION IN UGANDA, ESPECIALLY WITH THE TRAGIC DISREGARD FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. WE HAVE SPOKEN OUT ABOUT

THESE THINGS PUBLICLY AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO WHEREVER AND WHENEVER IT SEEMS APPROPRIATE.

- (B) WE APPRECIATE TANZANIA'S CONCERN WITH THESE MATTERS AND THE FACT THAT PRESIDENT NYERERE HAS BEEN ONE OF THE FEW AFRICAN LEADERS TO GIVE HONEST PUBLIC EXPRESSION TO HIS CONDEMNATION OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN UGANDA. WE CAN SYMPATHIZE AT THE FACT THAT AMIN'S BEHAVIOR HAS BECOME A SOURCE OF ACUTE EMBARRASSMENT TO MANY AFRICANS, AND WE SHARE THEIR CONCERN AT THE DAMAGE SUCH ACTIONS DO TO THE AFRICAN CAUSE.
- (C) THE UNITED STATES HAS ITS PRINCIPLES AND WILL ADHERE TO THEM. WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT AFRICA SHOULD BE KEPT FREE OF EXTERNAL INTERVENTION, ESPECIALLY GREAT POWER INTERVENTION. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT WE CAN ASSUME A MANDATE TO INTERVENE IN UGANDA'S DOMESTIC POLITICAL STRIFE.
- (D) WE AND OTHERS DO HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO TAKE A STAND ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND TO PRESS FOR AN END TO THE GROSS VIOLATIONS THAT ARE TAKING PLACE IN UGANDA, AS WE DO WHEREVER THEY MAY OCCUR, BE IT IN THE SOVIET UNION, SOUTH AFRICA, OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY. THE WEIGHT OF INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION IS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE IN SUCH MATTERS.
- (E) IN THIS CONNECTION, WE WERE DISTRESSED AT THE TOTALLY INADEQUATE TREATMENT OF THIS QUESTION RECENTLY BY THE MAJORITY OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. IF OTHER SECRET

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NATIONS ARE UNWILLING TO URGE EVEN IMPARTIAL INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATION, THEN A MAJOR AVENUE FOR EXPOSING THE PROBLEM AND ENCOURAGING CORRECTION WILL BE LOST.

- (F) WHILE THE PROBLEMS AMIN CAUSES FOR AFRICA ARE PRIMARILY OF AFRICAN CONCERN, THE WIDER HUMAN PROBLEMS ARE OF WORLD CONCERN. BUT IF AFRICANS DO NOT THEMSELVES SPEAK OUT, THE WORLD IS INHIBITED IN SAYING OR DOING MORE.
- (G) OUR EXPERIENCE IN DEALING WITH AMIN, ESPECIALLY DURING THE PAST WEEK, IS THAT INFLUENCE FROM OTHER AFRICANS CAN HAVE SOME EFFECT ON AMIN. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THE SENSITIVITY IN AFRICA TO CRITICIZING THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES, AFRICANS SHOULD LOOK MORE CAREFULLY AT THEIR OWN RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE INTERESTS OF BLACK AFRICA AS A WHOLE WHEN THEY SEE CASES OF EXCESSIVE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS.
- (H) AFRICANS SHOULD ALSO BE CONCERNED ABOUT EXTRA-

CONTINENTAL POWERS WHOSE SUPPORT FOR AMIN HELPS PRESERVE HIM IN POWER. SERIOUS CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO VOICING THOSE CONCERNS TO THOSE OUTSIDE POWERS WITH THE AIM OF SECURING THE WITHDRAWAL OF THEIR SUPPORT FOR AMIN.

CHRISTOPHE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, POLITICAL STABILITY, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS,

POLITICAL SITUATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITIO N, CAT-B

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE

Sent Date: 05-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

**Decaption Note:** Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009

Disposition Date: 22 Ma Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a Disposition Reason: Disposition Remarks:

Document Number: 1977STATE049213 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 **Drafter: WBEDMONDSON:LPR** 

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

**Expiration:** Film Number: P840076-0066, N770001-0755

Format: TEL From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770389/aaaadaej.tel

Line Count: 122 Litigation Code IDs:

Litigation Codes: Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 52b712bd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a

Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: SECRET

Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY Reference: 77 DAR ES SALAAM 828, 77 DAR ES SALAAM 913

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED **Review Content Flags:** 

Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a Review Transfer Date: Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3195021 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: NYERERE/MUGANDA COMMENTS ON UGANDA TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, TZ, UG, US, (NYERERE, JULIUS K), (AMIN DADA, IDI) To: DAR ES SALAAM WHITE HOUSE

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/52b712bd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released **US** Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009